

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

INFO AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LISBON

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E.O. 11652: G N/A

TAGS: EIND, ELAB, AO, MZ

SUBJECT: EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES OF U.S. FIRMS IN PORTUGUESE

AFRICAN TERRITORIES

1. FOLLOWING QUOTE IS CONDENSED VERSION OF STATEMENT
BY CONGRESSMAN CHARLES DIGGS, CHAIRMAN OF HOUSE FOREIGN
AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA, DURING RECENT COMMERCE
DEPARTMENT HEARING BEFORE SUBCOMMITTEE. "...SEVERAL
MONTHS AGO GULF SENT ONE OF THEIR BLACK DEALERS TO CABINDA.
THIS DEALER FOUND OUT THAT BLACK WORKERS WERE BEING PAID
ON DIFFERENT WAGE SCALE FOR SAME LABOR. APPARENTLY GULF
WAS SENDING MONEY DOWN THERE AND LETTING THEM SET SCALES,
RATHER THAN IT BEING SET IN PITTSBURGH AND AS RESULT THEY
WERE EXPLOITING BLACKS. HE PROTESTED THIS AND THEY CHANGED
SYSTEM AND NOW PAY WORKERS DIRECTLY. DO YOUR GUIDELINES
(TO BUSINESS) EMPHASIZE WHOLE QUESTION OF FAIR EMPLOYMENT
PRACTICES, EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK, PROMOTIONAL
OPPORTUNITIES, ETC."

2. FURTHER HEARINGS ON PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES ARE
ANTICIPATED AND ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS OF THIS NATURE ARE
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LIKELY TO BE ASKED. COMMERCE AND STATE HAVE NO RPT NO

BACKGROUND ABOUT QUOTED INCIDENT NOR ON EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES IN GENERAL OF AMERICAN FIRMS OPERATING IN PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES.

3. ACTION LUANDA: CAN YOU SHED SOME LIGHT ON GULF INCIDENT REPORTED ABOVE AND GULF'S LOCAL RESPONSE.
4. ACTION LUANDA AND LOURENCO MARQUES: REQUEST REPORT ASAP ON WHAT IS KNOWN OF EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES OF AMERICAN FIRMS IN ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE, INCLUDING INFORMATION VOLUNTERRED BY ANY FIRMS ON THEIR SPECIFIC PRACTICES. PLEASE INDICATE INFORMATION THAT HAS BEEN PROVIDED ON CONFIDENTIAL BASIS.
5. INFO POSTS' COMMENTS, IF ANY, ARE WELCOME. KISSINGER

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